

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 COA-01

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NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 RSC-01 OES-05 SS-15 SP-02 LAB-04

SIL-01 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 H-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CG-00

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, SENV, CA, US

SUBJECT: GARRISON DIVERSION

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE IN COMMONS QUESTION
PERIOD FEBRUARY 4 BETWEEN CRAIG STEWART (CONSERVATIVE,
MANITOBA) AND EXTAFF MINISTER MACEACHEN:

STEWART: "NOW THAT THE FORD ADMINISTRATION HAS
ASKED THAT ANOTHER \$15 MILLION BE DIRECTED TO THE
GARRISON DIVERSION PROJECT, INDICATING THAT CANADIAN
NEGOTIATORS HAVE FAILED TO MODIFY OR STOP THIS PROJECT,
IS IT THE INTENTION OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TO HAVE THE DISPUTE REFERRED TO THE
INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION?"

MACEACHEN: "IN REPLY TO THE HON. GENTLEMAN'S
QUESTION I SHOULD SAY THAT AT A RECENT MEETING HELD
BETWEEN CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES OFFICIALS ON THIS
POINT THE UNITED STATES REITERATED AGAIN ITS INTENTION
OF CARRYING OUT ITS OBLIGATIONS; THAT NO INJURY THROUGH
THIS CONSTRUCTION WILL TAKE PLACE TO PROPERTY IN CANAD.
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THAT IS THE CONTINUED POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT.

"I MIGHT SAY THAT I ALSO NOTED THE PRESS REPORT INDICATING THAT FUNDS ARE BEING REQUESTED BY THE PRESIDENT, AND APPARENTLY THEY HAVE TO DO WITH CONSTRUCTION OF A PARTICULAR RESERVOIR THAT IS PART OF THE OVER-ALL PROJECT, BUT WHICH COULD GO AHEAD ASIDE AND APART FROM ANY EFFECT IN CANADA. IN RESPECT OF THE SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION, AT THE RECENT MEETING HELD WITH THE UNITED STATES IT WAS CONSIDERED, AT LEAST, THAT FURTHER STEPS OUGHT TO BE TAKEN TO DETERMINE HOW THE PROJECT COULD BE REMODELLED TO AVOID ANY EFFECT IN CANADA, AND AT THE PRESENT TIME WE HAVE UNDER CONSIDERATION WHETHER THE IJC MIGHT BE THE APPROPRIATE BODY TO CARRY OUT THIS TASK."

STEWART: "SINCE THE OFFICIAL NEGOTIATORS APPEAR AT THIS POINT TO HAVE FAILED, HAS THE MINISTER REQUESTED THE PRIME MINISTER TO MAKE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIONS TO PRESIDENT FORD POINTING OUT THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF THIS PROJECT ON THE SOURIS, RED AND ASSINIBOINE RIVERS IN CANADA?"

MACEACHEN: "YES, THE PRIME MINISTER, AT THE MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT IN DECEMBER, RAISED THIS QUESTION OF THE GARRISON PROJECT, AND REITERATED CANADIAN CONCERNS AND ATTITUDES. IT WAS MADE CLEAR AT THAT TIME THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO CARRY OUT ITS STATED OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE TREATY, AND THE PRESENT PURPOSE OF FURTHER INQUIRIES SUCH AS THROUGH THE IJC WOULD BE TO DETERMINE HOW THESE PARTICULAR OBLIGATIONS MIGHT BE DISCHARGED."
PORTER

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